

THE M.P.

OLD IZAAK.

Herbert Curr, of Weybridge, the professional fisherman, writes:—"The water is now in splendid condition for all-round fishing. We are getting

PIPER PAN.

Herr Joachim played splendidly at last Monday's Popular Concert, and also on the following evening at the Bach Society's concert. His performance of Bach's terribly difficult sonata in C major was magnificent, and he was recalled four times by the delighted audience. In high class music of this kind he stands above all other violinists.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

Those who desire to feast their eyes on a real Egyptian mummified cat can do so by paying a visit to Mr. Brett, naturalist, 61, Greenwich-road, Greenwich. He writes me that he has a very fine specimen still in its original bandages, which

his own rapacious maw; and, as I looked, I thought that to the naturalist the microscope reveals the wide extent of nature as much as the telescope does to the astronomer. The earth, the air, the water, are all inhabited by countless kinds of animated beings of which we never think, and which we crush to death in numbers almost every time we move. And these creatures notwithstanding their puny size, are as necessary and as useful to the great order of things as the elephant, or the whale, or the eagle.

THE ACTOR.

In "The Favourite of the King"—at Comedieteen—Miss Louise Moodie makes her rental after a tolerably long absence from the West-end theatres. At the Grand, Islington, not so very long ago—has been seen in Lady Shonckton's part in "The Swif." She is great and full and pathetic in expression, and everybody will remember how touching was her Mrs. Dennam "The Crisis." In woe-begone rôles she is admirable.

GENERAL CHATTER.

There is nothing more dangerous for old folks and those in at ill health than attending funerals during bleak weather. Mr. Gladstone had proof of this last week, but, thanks to his adamant constitution, he quickly threw off the chill that would have been fatal to most octogenarians. When a friend dies, one does not like to remiss in paying the last sad offices of friendship, but it is a mistake to carry this very natural feeling so far as the endangerment of life.

Talking of that excellent food reminds me of the immense difference between the quotations at the Central Fish Market, Smithfield, and the fishmongers' shops. At the former the prime cuts just fresh from the sea is 4d. per pound or for the whole fish 3d. per pound; fishmongers charge quite double these rates, and that, too, a very inferior article. I believe, too, that

MR. WHEELER.

Among the leading features for next week will be the annual dinner of the West Roads Club, next Tuesday at Baron's Court Hotel, W. Kensington, when Sir Algernon Borthwick, Colonel Savile, and other great guns will fire salutes in honour of the occasion. Another notable event is the annual ball of the Carlton Rovers at the Beaufort Hall, Beaumont-square, next Thursday, when a very full muster is anticipated.

FOOTBALL AND THE POOR.

"SAFETIES."—Clearance Bargains. 600 Soiled Machines for 24 1/2%. Special prices to Agents. "Cyclodon."—Safeties, 600. All Round, Soiled, only 23 1/2%. Send for 1890 New and Second hand Lists. Easy Payments, &c. Cycle Fittings, Special Prices. Bicycles from 2 s.; Tricycles, 50s. Riding School or till 8.0 P.M.—"CYCLEDON," 54, Blackfriars-road.—[ADT.]

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"IN THE MIDDLE ORDER OF MANKIND ARE GENERALLY TO BE FOUND ALL THE ARTS, WISDOM, AND VIRTUE OF SOCIETY. THUS

ORDER ALONE IS KNOWN TO BE THE TRUE PRESERVER OF FREEDOM, AND MAY BE CALLED 'THE PEOPLE.'"—Vicar of Wakefield, chap. 19.

MORE TRADE UNION TYRANNY.

Trade union leaders do not appear to have mastered the meaning of the lesson they ought to learn from the history of the gas stokers' strike.

strika. Whether it be by accident, or whether it be done out of a spirit of bravado, the London United Building Trades' Committee have taken upon themselves to issue a mani-

festive just at the time when the half-yearly meeting of the South Metropolitan Gas Company has recalled to the public mind that lamentable history of a failure in which trade

unionism made a fool of itself and its victims paid a terribly heavy penalty. The circumstances of the manifesto in question are as follows: Messrs. PETO BROTHERS, the well-

known contractors, having obtained from the London County Council the contract to build the Cane Hill Asylum extension, thought fit to offer their employees a scheme of profit

sharing. The substance of that scheme was this, that the men employed on the job should receive, in addition to their ordinary wages, a quarter of the profit derived from the

contract by Messrs. PETO. Now, if that is not a handsome offer for a firm of employers to make, we should really like to know what is? What have the London United

Building Trades' Committee (whose opinion was not asked, and which is absolutely uncalled for) got to say that can justify any body of workmen in refusing such an offer? The

assert that Messrs. PETO have imposed "unreasonable and humiliating restrictions, which have made it impossible for the men to accept their conditions." What are these

restrictions? They are three in number. First, no workman will participate in the profits who does not earn at least £5 in wages on the day of the strike.

contract. Secondly, any man will forfeit his share who shall do anything to diminish the profits on the contract by misconduct of any kind or by striking for higher wages. Thirdly,

all profit will be forfeited by any man doing anything to damage the reputation of the firm for good and honest work. These, then, are the "restrictions" which this trade union

committee declare to be so "unreasonable and humiliating" as to make the acceptance of the scheme impossible for any workman. With regard to the first of them, it is perfectly

open, we need not remind our readers, to the employers to fix the lowest level of wages which shall entitle a workman to a share in the profits at any point they may think right.

Possibly they might have drawn the line at a lower sum; but, even if they ought to have done so, that does not vitiate the whole scheme, for the vast majority of the men on the job will earn at least \$5 a week, though

That, however, is an unimportant matter compared with the attitude taken up by the

the committee urge, first, that Messrs. PET

men" to think they would misconduct themselves or waste their time. And, even they did so, ask the committee, what right have Messrs. PETO to deprive them

their profits? What right, indeed! What appeal to the common sense and common honesty of our readers. Is it an unheard-of thing that a working man should

waste his employer's time? We should like to have the judgment of a jury of foremen, in the building or any other trade, on that question. We should like to meet the foreman

who would venture to promise that none of his men would misconduct themselves in the or some other way on a long job, especially if they were to lose nothing by such misconduct. And the language of the law is

concerning the last "restriction," which deals with the possibility of work being scamped, is difficult to restrain a roar of laughter. "We cannot," say the committee, "understand."

any employer should impose such a restriction upon those who, in the dual capacity

workmen and ratepayers, would have a decided interest in the accomplishment of good and honest work." As ratepayers! Just imagine a lousy and dishonest workman—and there are plenty of them, just as there are plenty of lousy and dishonest gentlemen—forgetting to scamp his work because he is a ratepayer. We cannot help thinking that the person who composed that manifesto must have been having a little joke at the expense of the committee. Nevertheless, we and the public are bound to take the thing as seriously meant. And as such, we do not hesitate to denounce it as an outrageous piece of trade union tyranny and folly. The very conditions which Messrs. Peto impose are imposed in the interests of the men as well as in their own. If any participants in profits were allowed to misconduct themselves and to diminish profits with impunity, the loss would fall upon the men who participate as well as upon Messrs. Peto. Apparently the committee are too stupid to perceive that. But, whether they perceive it or not, it is an obvious fact. The truth is, that schemes of profit sharing are heartily distasteful to trade union leaders, because they see that if masters and men once get to act together for their common good there will be no further need of trade unions. It is to the interest, it is necessary to the very existence, of trade unionism that masters and men shall be enemies. As long as trade union leaders thought they could obtain shares in profits on their own terms, they clamoured for such schemes; but now that employers are beginning to offer them they oppose them with all their might. Trade unionism would like to have the system on its own terms, for the benefit of the men alone, which they never will; the masters are offering it for the benefit of both parties. When the working man gets fairly hold of that fact, and consents to identify his interests with those of his employer, trade unionism—which has done good work in its time—will find its occupation gone. And the sooner the better, say we, if the trade union leaders exhibit no better sense than the authors of this senseless manifesto.

Mr. Morley has got himself into very hot water all round with his bid for the Irish Catholic vote over the education question. He has pleased nobody, neither the uncompromising Radicals nor the political Nonconformists any more than the most Church of England and Conservative of politicians. The reason is plain, as Mr. Chamberlain has explained. Mr. Morley's division of voluntary schools into those which are for the good of the community, and those which are for the good of a particular sect, is a division which does not really exist at all. Every school under Government control is bound to admit scholars without regard to creed, and to give them the benefit of the conscience clause. If, therefore, Mr. Morley's scheme became law, one of two things must happen—either the conscience clause must be abolished and the State must support purely sectarian schools, or else any purely sectarian school, say Roman Catholic or Jewish, which admits a single child of another faith will lose its right to remain under sectarian management and will come under that of the ratepayers. Here, then, is a dilemma which is bound to displease one party or another. Mr. Morley should have mastered the elements of his subject before he began to talk about altering the law.

Lord Randolph Churchill has done no good to himself or anybody else by his desultory toying with the pernicious eight hours' scheme. To begin with, Lord Randolph would have done better not to contribute his share to the waste of time which has been caused by the debate on the address. But, besides that, he has done wrong to lend the weight of his implied sanction, such as it is, to that scheme. We have already criticised the principle of restricting the number of hours which a grown man may work, and have pointed out the obvious objections to it. Lord Randolph, however, in his remarks on Mr. Cunningham Graham's motion on Monday, alluded to the case of the colonies. The truth on that matter, as he himself admitted, is that it is really public opinion, and not legislation, that has fixed the Australian and South African working day at eight hours. When public opinion does the same in this country—if ever it does—the question will be practically settled without legislative action. Meanwhile, we have no right to coerce working men who wish to work longer hours by obtaining from Parliament a prohibition upon their doing so.

A JOURNALIST'S LIBEL ACTION.
Mr. Justice A. L. Smith, with a common jury, had before him the case of Tacker v. Boyd and others. The plaintiff, Mr. William Tacker, a journalist, professionally known as Edgar Lee, a sub-editor of the *St. Stephen's Review*, sued the proprietor and printers of the *Hawk* newspaper to recover damages for alleged libel. The defendants denied that the words complained of were defamatory, and also pleaded that in their fair and ordinary meaning they were true in substance and in fact. The words complained of appeared in February and March, 1889, and were to the effect that the plaintiff was the manager of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and that a sub-editor of the *St. Stephen's Review*, and that a sub-editor of the *St. Stephen's Review*, who had been put in the plaintiff's paper. The plaintiff, who had lent the lease £700, contended that the imputation was that he could not properly carry on his duties as a journalist, and that he was insolvent. This, however, was denied by the defendants, who said the paragraphs in question contained no imputation upon the plaintiff's character of solvency or of that of the lease; the order for a receiver being made on a foreclosure action. Further, the defendants said that the paragraphs were inserted in reply to attacks upon the *Hawk* in the plaintiff's paper. The jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £25. Judgment accordingly.

A Parliamentary paper issued on Thursday gives an account of the amount received and expended on account of the telegraph service in the year ended March 31st last. The gross amount received by the Post Office in respect of telegraphic messages, private telegrams, and special wire telegrams, £2,310,327, the net amount being £2,129,965. The expenditure on account of salaries, rent, and maintenance of telegraphs was £1,959,323, and the balance to meet interest on stock and the redemption of the debt, after making other allowances, was £288,098 17s. 6d.

ACTION FOR BREACH OF AGREEMENT.

£5,000 Damages.

Baron Huddleston, with a special jury, had before him on Thursday the case of *Rudge Cycle Company v. Stoddard, Lovering, and Co.* The plaintiffs are manufacturers of bicycles and tricycles, carrying on business at Coventry, and they sued the defendants, who are commission agents carrying on an extensive business at Bradford and in America, to recover damages for an alleged breach of an agreement, by which the defendants agreed to become the plaintiffs' sole agents in America for a period of five years. The plaintiffs alleged that in 1887, the agreement having been entered into in 1886, the defendants wrongfully terminated the agreement, and sold their stock of bicycles and tricycles to the firm of Pope and Co., who were, the plaintiffs alleged, their rivals in trade in America. In consequence of this the plaintiffs said they had sustained great loss, which they put at £10,000. The defendants denied that there was any breach of the agreement, and said that if there was a technical breach the plaintiffs were only entitled to nominal damages, as, in face of the American firms, the business was unprofitable, which was the cause of their giving it up. They also relied upon the fact that as the plaintiff company had been reconstituted since the agreement, they were not entitled to sue. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs, damages £5,000.

THE LLANERCH COLLIERY DISASTER.
The inquest on the victims of the Llanerch Colliery disaster was resumed at Pontypool on Thursday. The principal witness was a checkweigher named Jones, appointed by the men, who produced the reports of the workmen who examined the pit twice on January 14th. He stated that the pit was free from gas and in good working order. The coroner, in reply to a deputation, promised to recommend the Monmouthshire County Council to amply remunerate the workmen in attendance to give evidence.

A WELSHER SENT TO PRISON.
At Wolverhampton, on Thursday, Henry Pearson, alias William Riley, described as a betting man, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for obtaining money by fraud. The prisoner was at Dunstall Park Steeplechase on the previous day, where, in concert with another man, he made bets with a number of people on one of the races, and just before the finish the prisoner's confederate disappeared with the money.

OUTRAGES BY ALBANIANS.
The Government organ *Objek*, of Belgrade, publishes a sensational report from the Turkish province of Old Servia, which, it declares, is based on authentic information. The journal states that the inhabitants of the Serbian villages of Babljak, Bobuc, and Babush have been plundered by Albanians, who treated them with great cruelty, many being tortured to death. The statement adds that the Porte had, in consequence, despatched a battalion to the district to protect the inhabitants, but according to advices received from Withizim, the troops had not succeeded in restoring order, as the Albanian robber bands had increased in strength.

SINGULAR DYNAMITE FATALITY.
Extraordinary evidence has been adduced at Plymouth at an inquest held concerning the deaths of two men, William Gullett and George Tapper, who were killed by a dynamite explosion at Egg Buckland, near Plymouth. It appeared they were thawing a quantity of dynamite, which for the purpose they placed in an old straw hat over boiling water on the fire, the result being that some dynamite percolated through the meshes of the hat to the bottom of the pan holding the water, causing a terrible explosion by which the men were both killed. The owner of the quarry where the accident occurred had not read the rule affecting dynamite, and the jury, in returning a verdict of accidental death, strongly censured him.

AN IMPOVERISHED EMPEROR.
A Paris correspondent mentions the reasons which are supposed to have influenced Dom Pedro in his resolve to renounce his title to the Crown of Brazil, and to ask leave to return to his former subjects. The pressure of poverty is being sharply felt by the whole imperial family, and rather than dismiss those who followed him into exile, Dom Pedro has resolved, if possible, to make terms with the United States of Brazil. If allowed to go back, he intends, it is said, to devote himself to botany and other natural sciences.

MISTAKEN FOR DEAD.
One of those terribly and sometimes fatal errors of mistaking unconsciousness for death has just taken place at Alessandria, in Piedmont, and the victim of it narrowly escaped being buried alive. A young woman who had suffered much from convulsions passed into a state of coma. She was thought by those who were about her to be dead, and when a medical man was called he shared the opinion, and gave a certificate accordingly. By-and-bye she was coffined, the funeral day came, the cortege started, and had reached the cemetery before anything unusual happened. The joining of the hearse seems to have aroused the sleeper, for as the coffin was being borne from the hearse to the grave sounds were heard proceeding from it, and the bearers felt a movement produced by the body within. The lid was hastily torn off, when the young woman was discovered alive and conscious, and, as might be expected, in a state of extreme agitation. She was immediately removed to the public hospital, where she is now lying well. It is Italy, however, where burial usually takes place within thirty-six or forty-eight hours after supposed death, facts of this kind are not without grave significance. A doctor in Rome has compiled and published statistics to the effect that several thousands of persons are annually buried in a state of coma throughout Europe.

RAILWAY RATES INQUIRY.

On the resumption of the Board of Trade inquiry into the railway rates on Thursday, Lord Balfour addressed the court on behalf of the Cattle Labourers' Association in opposition to the railway companies' proposed maximum charges, contending that a fair margin for profit could be obtained without adding to the terminals and reducing the number of stock to be carried in each truck. Mr. Phillips, bedstead manufacturer, of Birmingham, gave evidence in opposition to the proposed rates and classifications specially affecting his trade. Lord Balfour of Burleigh announced that the inquiry would not commence in Dublin so soon after Easter as had been contemplated. He also stated that the coal and iron trade case would be taken on Wednesday next, to which day the court adjourned.

LABOUR DISPUTES AT LIVERPOOL.

Work at North Docks, Liverpool, was again interrupted on Thursday by a dispute in the grain trade, which resulted in a strike of over 2,000 labourers, carters, and coalheavers. It appears that men working in the hold of Messrs. Fletcher's ship *Guide*, trimming wheat for elevators, demanded 7s. per day, in accordance with the rules of the Labourers' Union, but the stevedores refused to pay, offering 5s. and two pints of ale per day. This the men refused, and thereupon the men employed at the vessel struck work. Delegates afterwards went to Messrs. Nickell's steamer *Carolina*, and called off all hands, the men leaving without a moment's notice and without assigning any cause. The strikers allege that Messrs. Fletcher's stevedores gave a promise two days ago that the advance should be paid, but they deny it. It is expected that the strike will extend. Labour matters at Liverpool docks are in a very unsettled condition owing to the action of the Labourers' Union and the Knights of Labour.

THE WEEK'S DIVORCE CASES.

"MR. ABINGTON" A CORRESPONDENT.
500 DAMAGES.

In the Divorce Division on Thursday, Sir James Hannen and a common jury had this case before them. The petition was that of Mr. Francis Darbishire for a divorce by reason of the alleged adultery of his wife (Miss Agnes Hewitt, the actress) with the co-respondent, Mr. George Baird, otherwise known as "Mr. Abington," the gentleman rider. Against him there was a claim for damages. Answers were filed denying the charge, and there were counter-allegations against the petitioner. Mr. Willis, Q.C., and Mr. Middleton appeared for the petitioner; Mr. Barnard for the respondent; and Mr. Russell, Q.C., Mr. Underwood, Q.C., and Mr. Germaine for the co-respondent. Mr. Willis, in opening the case for the petitioner, said Mr. Darbishire was now a young man about 28 years of age. For some time he was in business in Manchester, but that business not proving a profitable one, in 1884 he found employment on the stage, becoming an actor. He took part in many pieces. It was in 1886 that he became acquainted with his wife, whose stage name was Agnes Hewitt. He was introduced to her at the house of a gentleman now dead, at 25, Gower-street, where the lady was passing as Mrs. Sothorn. Mr. Sothorn died in April, 1887, and in May, 1887, Miss Hewitt took the Olympic Theatre. In June, 1887, Mr. Darbishire proposed to Miss Hewitt, and was married to her in the same year. Before this, however, he was acquainted with the fact that she was living with her. In March, 1888, the Olympic proved a failure, Mrs. Darbishire became bankrupt, and Mr. Darbishire himself had to file his petition. In March, 1889, they formed a touring engagement in the provinces, and in the middle of that month they found themselves at Liverpool, where they met the co-respondent. While in a box at the races Mr. Darbishire saw Mr. Baird speak to his wife for a few minutes, and that was all that he knew then of any intimacy between Mr. Baird and his wife. The engagement at Liverpool was to last till Saturday, March 30th, and the next place the company was to visit was Leicester, on Saturday, the 30th. On this Saturday Mrs. Darbishire expressed a wish to go home to London, and she left, he not having the slightest suspicion; she promised to return to him on the Monday evening. She did return, and on the Tuesday they came to London, and on the Wednesday morning Mr. Darbishire returned to Leicester on the Wednesday, but his wife said she was unequal to the task, and did not return till the Friday. When the time came for the company to go to Bradford, Mrs. Darbishire said she was unwell, and returned to London. Mr. Darbishire stayed with his wife until the 22nd April. On that date he found in his wife's dressing-case certain papers, which were the handwriting of the co-respondent, and pointed to a certain amount of intimacy. On finding these letters Mr. Darbishire said to his wife that there was something wrong between her and Mr. Baird. She became very excited, and admitted that there had been an intimacy between herself and Mr. Baird; that on the night she left Liverpool for the purpose of coming to London on account of illness she and Mr. Baird came to London together; that she went to Mr. Baird's house, in John-street, Berkeley-square, and that there she had committed adultery with him. The husband was charged by the co-respondent with having committed adultery. Sir C. Russell: We do not propose to give any evidence in support of that charge. Mr. Willis was instructed to say there was not the slightest foundation for this charge. Another charge was that the husband and wife were prosecuting this suit in collusion. As to that charge, the allegation was that the husband and wife were prosecuting the suit for purposes of their own, but there was not a word of truth in that charge. It was alleged that the wife had given her husband money during the proceedings, but the petitioner would tell them that he never received one penny. With regard to the damages, they would have to assess them in view of all the circumstances. That Mr. Baird knew the respondent was married would be shown, for the marriage was in November, 1887, and was announced. It was true that in his letters the co-respondent addressed the respondent as "Dear Miss Hewitt," but that was her professional name.

THE PETITIONER'S EVIDENCE.
—Mr. Francis Darbishire, the petitioner, said he formerly carried on business as a shipping merchant in London and Manchester. After a time he left business and went upon the stage as an actor. From that time he continued in the profession. He married the respondent on the 8th of November, 1887, at St. James's Church, Piccadilly. She was an actress, her stage name being Agnes Hewitt. There were no children. They lived first of all at the Olympic Theatre, in Kensington. He was very much attached to his wife. She took the Olympic Theatre, but the piece was a failure, and she became a bankrupt in March, 1888. He was involved in that in regard to accommodation bills, and became a bankrupt at the same time. Afterwards they joined a touring company, having a joint salary of £12 a week. They went to Liverpool, where Mr. Baird was riding at the races there. On one of the days they went to the meeting, and there Mr. Baird spoke to the respondent. On the 28th March she went to a supper party of ladies. Subsequently she went to London, and joined him at Leicester. They afterwards had to go to London to attend a meeting of the creditors in connection with the bankruptcy proceedings. She afterwards complained of being unwell, and stayed for two days in London. On the 22nd April he found in his wife's theatrical dressing-case some letters, the handwriting of the co-respondent. He spoke freely of the subject to her, and she was very excited at the time, and admitted that she had been unfaithful. She admitted that in London and Newmarket she had stayed with the co-respondent. He then left her and went to Derby, rejoining the touring company. He had never since lived with her. He gave a positive denial to the charges of collusion and adultery.

AN ACTRESS'S DRESSING-CASE.
—In cross-examination by Sir C. Russell, he said that his wife did not originally appear to these proceedings. He was not aware that the Olympic Theatre was financed by a gentleman whose connection ceased at the time of the respondent's connection with the respondent was not a continuing one. The discovery of the letters in the theatrical dressing-case was accidental. The case contained some "make up" for the profession and some tradesmen's bills and letters. (Laughter.) He denied that he had communicated with his wife through a third person. He had received letters from a house in the Strand, where his wife also got some. He never opened any of hers. Sir C. Russell, Q.C., then asked that he had certain evidence, but it was right to say that there was no ground for suggesting collusion.

MISS HEWITT AND MR. BAIRD.
—Margie Leask said she was housekeeper to Mr. Baird at 3, John-street. On a Sunday at the end of March last year, Mr. Baird came to the house with a lady. She knew that lady to be Agnes Hewitt. They arrived about three o'clock in the morning. The lady was there an hour or two and then left, but returned about half-past one and had lunch with Mr. Baird. On one occasion they went to Newmarket. Two or three days after this Agnes Hewitt came to the house alone at night. Mr. Baird was at home, and she stayed there that night, the next day, and the following night, Hewitt and Mr. Baird occupying the same room.

—Cross-examined, the witness said after she had been at John-street two nights she heard that Miss Hewitt was a married woman. Mr. Baird told her. He said he had found that Miss Hewitt was a married woman, and that there was no account was she to be allowed to enter the house. When Miss Hewitt came again on the following Monday she was not admitted.

Mr. C. E. R. Preston, solicitor to the petitioner, spoke to the institution of these proceedings, and said, as far as he knew, Mrs. Darbishire had nothing to do with the bringing of the suit. Cross-examined: Mr. Baird said if he would give up the touring company he would find money to put her in a theatre. Re-examined: It was in consequence of that promise that she instructed the witness to write to Mr. Baird. This concluded the case for the petitioner.

THE DEFENCE.
—Sir C. Russell, in opening the case for the co-respondent, said the charges of adultery and collusion against Mr. Darbishire were withdrawn, and it was not denied that the co-respondent had intercourse on the occasions mentioned with Miss Agnes Hewitt. Therefore the only question was what, if any, damages ought to be given against Mr. Baird in this case. As to the correspondence, what did it point to? It pointed to a liaison and nothing else; and whatever Mr. Darbishire's honesty of mind and purpose might be, did they not think Miss Hewitt left the letters where Mr. Darbishire found them for a purpose—that they came to the knowledge of the husband? He submitted that she did. Then as to Mr. Baird's connection with Miss Hewitt, it had been proved that immediately he learned that this lady was a married woman he denied her his house and broke his connection with her; and he, therefore, held this was not a case in which damages should be given.

MR. BAIRD IN THE BOX.
—Mr. George Alexander Baird, the co-respondent, was then called. He said that he saw Miss Agnes Hewitt at Liverpool. She afterwards wrote to him with regard to theatrical speculations. He came to London with her. It was not until she went to Leicester he knew that she was a married woman. His information came from Mr. Roberts, at Romano's restaurant in the Strand. Since that time he had not seen her to speak to, and he gave orders that she was not to be permitted to go to his house. In cross-examination, he said that he made her acquaintance three or four years ago. He knew that she was an actress. He had seen her perform at theatres. He knew "nothing about" married ladies performing at theatres in their maiden names. (Laughter.) He had offered her no inducement to give up her profession. The £50 cheque was the only money she received from him. In re-examination he said that he first met her at a theatrical ball at the Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood. He was there introduced to her as Miss Agnes Hewitt. Counsel then addressed the jury on behalf of their respective clients.

THE JUDGE'S VIEW, AND VERDICT.
—His lordship, addressing the jury, said the case lay in a very narrow compass. The adultery of Mrs. Darbishire with Mr. Baird was not disputed. As to collusion, he was not surprised that that question had been raised. The circumstances, at least on the part of the wife, were most surprising, but Mr. Darbishire stood free from imputation. The adultery, then, being proved, the only question which remained was the question of damages, and on this point there were two elements to be considered. The damages which were given in these cases were compensation to the husband for the wrongful act of the co-respondent. They had to establish, not only that the husband had sustained damage, but it had to be established against the alleged wrongdoer, and a man was not a wrongdoer merely because he had had an intrigue with a woman. That court was not there to punish misconduct, it was only there to give compensation to a husband who had been injured by the wrongful act of another man. The jury found for the petitioner, and assessed the damages at £500.—A decree nisi was granted.

A FRENCH CORRESPONDENT.

The case of Leck v. Leck and Thommeret was heard before Mr. Justice Butt. This was the husband's petition praying for the dissolution of his marriage on the ground of his wife's misconduct with the co-respondent, a Frenchman, and the son of a Bordeaux wine and produce merchant. There was a claim for damages, and the petition was defended by the co-respondent, a man who was on the part of the petitioner, Samuel Thomas Leck, a clerk in the Inland Revenue Department of the Civil Service, stated that he was married to the respondent, who was then employed by Messrs. Liberty and Co., of Regent-street, on the 5th August, 1883, at Christ Church, Battersea, and they lived happily for some years, two children, a boy and a girl, now aged five and a half and two and a half years respectively, being born of the marriage. The rule they gave upon their holidays at the house of the petitioner's mother in Devonshire. Last year the wife asked to be allowed to go to Brighton, as she found the petitioner's home dull and uncomfortable. He allowed her to go, he visiting her usually from Saturday till Monday. On one of these visits she told him she had made the acquaintance of a Mr. Thommeret, who had been very kind, but at that time he had no suspicion of anything being wrong. On the 7th or 8th of June the petitioner went to Devonshire for his holiday. He returned on July 1st, and his wife then made a confession to him, stating that Thommeret had spent several nights in the house. He told his wife that for the sake of the children he would forgive her on consideration that she entirely gave up Thommeret and of her future good behaviour. She said she could not live under those conditions, and wanted to go to Thommeret and take the children with her. He ordered her to give up Thommeret, who had been living in the house, to leave on the following morning. He passed a portion of that night on the outside of his wife's bed. On the following day he found his wife had an appointment with Thommeret, and he accompanied her to Clapham Common to keep it. At the close of the interview respondent told the co-respondent that she would be at his lodgings that night. On their return home, as she persisted in her intention not to give up Thommeret, he told her to pack up her boxes. She did so and left the house. Petitioner took her boxes to Waterloo Station. His wife was, however, in the house on his return. He then gave her money to take her to her mother's house at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She left, and he subsequently found that she had passed the night at Thommeret's house, Waterloo-road. She afterwards went to Newcastle, but returned on the 11th of July and again went to Thommeret's house. After these proceedings were commenced his wife seemed very anxious to have them completed. He had since supported his wife.—Corroborative evidence was given in support of this evidence, and evidence was also given of the alleged cohabitation.—The husband's petition was granted, and costs were given against the co-respondent for £500.

AN ENGINE-FITTER'S SUIT.

In the suit of Duffon v. Duffon and Longden, a petition was presented by the husband, an engine-fitter at Bradford, praying for the dissolution of his marriage on the ground of the misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent. There was no defence, but the petitioner claimed damages.—Mr. Walter Duffon said he was married to the respondent on August 22nd, 1872, at Brunswick Chapel, Leeds. At that time he was working at Leeds, where they lived after the marriage very happily. There was one child. He knew him while his wife was alive. After the death of Longden, his wife was visited at his (petitioner's) house. He had reason to believe of the conduct of Longden, 1880. The co-respondent at that time was a pig dealer in Leeds, and he was now a pork butcher. Witness never lived with the respondent after that. He had met her in the streets, and also the co-respondent. He said to the latter, "You're a nice man to take away my wife," and he replied he had not. After that he found the respondent living with Longden as his wife in Leeds. A friend last year lent him money, and that had enabled him to institute the present suit. On June 26th petitioner went to the house at which respondent was living. He asked her if she was married to Longden, and she said that was no business of his. He told her he was going in for a divorce, and she told him he

could do so as soon as he liked. He was present when the citation was served.—In reply to the learned judge, the petitioner said that although the respondent left him in 1880, he made no inquiries about her. He thought she went to America, but after her return she lived with Longden. The respondent took the child of the marriage, as when she left him. He had not taken any steps before owing to want of means. He had never inquired about his son, nor did he know what he was doing.—His lordship pointed out that the present case was only one that called for small damages.—The jury found for the petitioner, and assessed the damages at £25.—His lordship granted a decree nisi, with costs, and ordered the damages to be paid to the petitioner in a fortnight.

ANOTHER THEATRICAL CASE.

The case of Lamb v. Lamb and Irton was one in which the petition was that of the husband, a plumber, praying for a divorce on the ground of the misconduct of his wife, an actress, known as Miss Edith Russell, with the co-respondent, James Irton, said to be a theatrical manager. Damages were claimed against the co-respondent. Mr. Tatham appeared for the petitioner and Mr. Pritchard for the co-respondent.—Mr. Tatham, in opening the case, said the marriage took place on September 3rd, 1883, and the parties lived in various parts of London until December, 1887. In that month the respondent left London for the purpose of carrying out a professional engagement in Manchester, and from that time she had not again lived with her husband, nor had she ever written to him. In the following December the husband obtained information which induced him to visit Manchester, and from what he saw there he instituted the present proceedings.—Henry N. Lamb, the petitioner, stated that he married his wife on the 3rd September, 1883, at St. Pancras parish church, he being then 21 years of age and his wife six months younger. They lived quite happily until December, 1887, when, when she had once an engagement at Manchester, and as the agreement had been signed, it was absolutely necessary that she should go. He endeavoured to persuade her to remain in London, but she persisted, and ultimately left. He heard that she was at a theatre in Manchester, and wrote to her several times asking her to return. To these letters he received no reply.—In reply to his lordship, witness said he addressed his letters to his wife in her stage name, Miss Edith Russell, at the Comedy Theatre, Manchester. In April, 1888, he saw his wife and the co-respondent at 16, Argyle-square, King's Cross, London, when she told him that the co-respondent was the acting manager of the company with whom she was playing, and that there was nothing wrong between them. In August, 1889, he went down to Manchester, to a house in Brunswick-street, and on going upstairs found his wife and the co-respondent in bed together. He told them he was satisfied with what he had seen, and on being ordered out of the room by the co-respondent he left. As soon as he was able he instituted these proceedings.—Lydia Willard, a professional friend of the respondent, who had played with her in the same companies, said she visited the respondent, whom she then knew only by her stage name of Edith Russell, at Argyle-square, King's Cross, and she remained there from April, 1888, until November of the same year. The respondent and the co-respondent lived there as man and wife. The respondent afterwards told her that she was married, and that her real name was Mrs. Lamb. She had visited her since that time, and on every occasion found her living with the co-respondent as his wife.—No further evidence was called, and his lordship pronounced a decree nisi, with costs, against the co-respondent, against whom the jury assessed damages at £50.

A SHOEBLACK IN TROUBLE.

At the Guildhall Police Court, Edward Nixon, 21, shoeblack, was charged on a warrant with assaulting George Clifford, a shoebblack.—Mr. Walter Beard appeared to prosecute, on behalf of the Central Shoebblack Society, a society, he said, that the prisoner was formerly a shoebblack in the employ of the society, but, owing to his misbehaviour, he was turned out of the society. He said he would show that a very disgraceful system was taking place, and he thought that very likely it would be necessary to adjourn the case in order that another person might be brought before the court. It appeared that the prisoner enticed boys to frequent a coffee-house in the lane, where in an upper room they played a game of whist, commonly known as "shove ha'penny" for stakes. Instead of getting their living, they left their boxes and gambled away their earnings, which they should give to the superintendent of the society. On Monday week this state of things was going on, and Clifford, who seemed to be an expert player, won several games. This annoyed the prisoner, and he struck the complainant a violent blow in the eye. A summons was issued, but as the prisoner failed to answer it, a warrant was granted, and he was arrested in this coffee-house by Detective Parsons.—Evidence bearing out the opening statement having been given, Sir Reginald Hanson imposed a fine of 2s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. costs, or seven days' imprisonment. He did not, he said, think proceedings could be taken against the coffee-house keeper, as it was a game of skill and not of chance. Yet he should advise the boys to keep away from places where gambling was carried on.

THE ASSAULT ON A MEDICAL MAN.

At the Hampstead Police Court, Mrs. Ann B. Somerville, aged 47, a married lady, residing in Grosvenor-road, South Norwood, but formerly living at Hampstead, was brought up on a charge of assaulting Dr. Herbert Cooper, a medical practitioner at Hampstead, and divisional surgeon to the police. From the opening statement of counsel at the first hearing and the evidence given, it appeared that some seven years ago the prisoner, when living with her husband at Hampstead, was a patient of Dr. Cooper's, and, with Dr. Cooper, the prosecutor, signed a lunacy certificate, under which she was removed to Camberwell House Asylum, where she remained only a short time. Recently she brought an action for libel against Dr. Cooper and Dr. Cooper in reference to the certificate. The Lord Chief Justice, however, dismissed the case when it came before him in October last, as the action had not been brought by Mrs. Somerville within a year of her discharge, as required by the Lunacy Acts. Mrs. Somerville, with the deliberate intention of doing something to bring her case before the public, went to the house of Dr. Cooper on the evening of February 18th. When Dr. Cooper saw her he declined to have anything to say to her, opened the hall door, and told her to leave the house. She, however, drew from her pocket a toy whip, struck Dr. Cooper across the face with it, and would have done the same to the housemaid who had been fetched, and on condition that she should be charged with the assault.—The following certificate from Dr. Gilbert, the medical officer of Holloway Gaol, was now received:—"Elizabeth Somerville, in my opinion, is of an excitable temperament and of somewhat impaired intellect, but while here she has shown no indications of actual insanity."—The bench, after hearing some evidence, inflicted upon the prisoner the highest penalty they had the power to impose for the assault—namely, £5, or in default two months' imprisonment—and they further ordered her to enter into her own recognisances of £50, with one surety in £50 or two in £25 each, to keep the peace for six months.—A gentleman in court paid the £5 fine, and prisoner said she had telegraphed to her husband, who, she expected, would become bail for her.

At the Court of Common Council meeting on Thursday a letter was read from Mr. H. M. Stanley, in which he stated he was at present engaged in preparing his notes, and that in all probability he would arrive in London by the 12th or 20th of April.

Medicine Vendors throughout the world

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS
CAUTION.—Ask for NORTON'S PILLS
 do not be persuaded to purchase an im-

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There have been heavy snowfalls in Greece during the past week.

A policeman in Indianapolis has carried a bullet in his brain for the last four years.

During a dense fog on the 22nd ult. a watchman named Tippy walked into a graving dock at Birkenhead, and was killed.

An ice house near Ashland, in Wisconsin, collapsed while thirty-five workmen were in the building. The majority were injured, some fatally.

It is announced that the Bishop of Bangor is about to tender his resignation of the see, which he has held since 1859.

The railway station at Balatovic has been destroyed by dynamite. Thirty persons were more or less seriously injured.

In Vienna a girl thirteen years and eight months old has given birth to a boy in the Foundling Hospital. The child does not weigh quite 3lb., and is not likely to live.

Serious rioting, supposed to be connected with politics, is reported from Coimbra, in Portugal. The administrator was shot at and severely wounded, and other persons were injured.

Cremation at Woking is now so common that it is not reported. The average is two or three bodies per week. Many believe that before long the increase will be sudden and enormous.

The experimental boring for coal between Dover and Folkestone is proceeding at the rate of a foot a day with satisfactory results, and fresh shafts are to be sunk to ascertain the direction of the supposed coal seam.

According to the official returns, there was a further slight increase in the death rate of London last week. The mortality from influenza was smaller, but there were more deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs, though these were a little below the average.

A new syndicate is being formed for the shipment of meat from South America to Liverpool. The undertaking is being carried out by a gentleman who was the promoter of two large companies now shipping meat from America and paying large dividends.

A novelty in lady lecturers is promised. This is Miss Olf Kruger, an Esquimaux young lady. She is the first woman of her race who has ever come forward as a public lecturer. She is said to speak English with great fluency and intelligence, appears in native costume, and only stands forty inches high.

John Hicks Dawson, an Englishman, holding the position of sexton at the church in Wickesville, Nebraska, suddenly became insane after suffering from an attack of influenza. While in a delirious condition he played during the service, the "Devil's Dream" on the chimes, and then threw himself from the steeple and was killed.

The Lord Mayor has added his name to the committee formed to promote the Stanley and African Exhibition at the Victoria Gallery, Regent-street. Many objects of interest that belonged to distinguished African travellers, as well as collections of African relics, will be lent for the purpose of the exhibition, of which Mr. Stanley will be vice-patron.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Mr. Justice Mathew has ruled that Sir Halliday Macartney, a British secretary to the Chinese Embassy in London, need not be called upon to pay rates to the Marylebone Vestry, he having the privilege of exemption in respect to rates accorded to members of foreign embassies residing in this country. Execution was stayed in view of an appeal.

The Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls have given judgment in two suits, in which the question at issue was the validity of two bills of sale granted to the Consolidated Credit Company, in respect of loans on furniture at 60 per cent. interest. The bills were pronounced informal and void, but leave to appeal was given, as counsel intimated that there were many bills of sale in the same form.

The roof of the "Flora" Crystal Palace and Concert Hall, which was just approaching completion at Hamburg, fell in with a tremendous crash. A number of men who were working in the interior of the building at the time were buried beneath the debris. Steps were at once taken to extricate them, and three were found dead, while eight others were badly injured. The colonnades and gardens were seriously damaged.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1889, when there was a balance of £5,532,002, to February 22, 1890, were £78,600,150, against £78,067,132 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £7,437,072. The net expenditure was £74,658,049, against £75,041,518 in the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 22, 1890, amounted to £26,239,109, and at the same date in 1889 to £26,244,929.

Mr. Mote, a solicitor, and two tradesmen, applied to the magistrate at Dalton Police Court for summonses against seven bandmen, a lady "captain," and other persons connected with the Salvation Army, for playing noisy instruments. Summonses were also asked against Mr. Bramwell Booth and Mr. Barrett, field secretaries, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Corcor said he would grant the summonses and appoint a special day for hearing them.

The managers of the Metropolitan Asylums District brought an action against Messrs. Kingham and Sons for non-fulfilment of a contract to supply a quantity of eggs. Although on September 22nd the defendants wrote that there was an error in their accepted tender, the managers on October 6th affixed their seal to the contract. Lord Justice Fry, who tried the case, gave judgment for the defendants, remarking that the seal of the managers was affixed too late to make it a valid contract.

A man named Piethekoff, while repairing some electric wires at Pierre, South Dakota, received a shock and fell from a height of 100 feet, fracturing both thighs. Believing that his end was near, the man confessed that he was a Russian exile, who had been implicated in a plot in 1889 to assassinate the Czar by means of dynamite. He also named several prominent Russian officials as having been parties to the conspiracy, and declared that he had documents in his possession which would prove the truth of his statements.

At the General Steam Navigation Company's meeting, Mr. J. H. Tritton, who presided, stated that the late strike had cost the company the equivalent of a full 10 per cent. dividend for the whole year. Their employees were not ill-paid, and he had every confidence that their good sense would ultimately prevail. It was disappointing to see hundreds of tons of cargo which ought to have come in their ships diverted to other routes, but London had so many advantages that it could compete on higher terms with any of its rivals, always, however, within strictly defined limits.

Sir Horace Davey, in replying to the arguments which had been urged in defence of the Bishop of Lincoln on the charges of practising an illegal ritual, urged that, while the Church allowed much liberty of opinion, it required a uniformity of ritual, as furnishing a common ground upon which members of all opinions could meet. If a minister might not introduce variations of ritual of his own accord, neither might a bishop. This closed the arguments, and the Archbishop of Canterbury said he would take time to consider his judgment.

Lord Selborne, who was entertained by the Liberal Union Club at a dinner, referred to the report of the special commission. He said he had always been of opinion that a select committee of the House of Commons would have been at least fit body to examine the questions raised by that commission, and he thought the public had gained by this investigation by a tribunal of judges. Of even more importance than the reputation of particular men was the system which affected the general welfare of the whole community, and on this subject the verdict of the

judges, tending towards exoneration, was exceedingly qualified and measure.

There were 2,702 births and 1,847 deaths in London last week.

Three young ladies have been drowned near Friedberg by the breaking of the ice upon which they were skating.

Different forms of violence caused seventy-seven deaths in London last week. Sixty-seven of these were attributable to accident or negligence.

Owing to further falls and avalanches among the Sierras, the passes are again blocked with snow and communications cut off.

The Hon. George Curzon, M.P., has returned to London from his travels in Central Asia and Persia. Mr. Curzon rode 2,000 miles through the latter country.

Early on Tuesday morning a fire broke out at 33, Falmouth-street, Battersea, from an unknown cause, and the shop and house of six rooms, tenanted by T. Lewis, draper, were destroyed.

A shock of earthquake has been felt in Rome. In several public buildings the gas was almost extinguished. Electrical apparatus was disturbed and electric bells were set ringing. The shock was undulatory, and lasted six seconds.

The death is reported of Mr. T. W. Pearce, town clerk of Bedford, from congestion of the lungs. The deceased gentleman, who was greatly respected, presented the site upon which the new church of St. Leonard's is now standing.

An alarming fire broke out on Tuesday night in oil mills situated in Thomas-street, Hardesty-road, Limehouse. Captain Shaw set fourteen steamers to work, but at midnight the fire was burning fiercely.

The story is going the round in Paris that the proprietor of the restaurant who provided the Duc d'Orleans' meals while in gaol, was asked to make out a bogus bill for the purpose of proving that the royal captive ate and drank in prison like an anchorite.

The question of Sunday Post Office labour is coming to the fore. It has engaged the attention of the Norwich Town Council, and a resolution was moved that the council should petition the Postmaster-general to stop the Sunday delivery of letters in the city.

At Retford, some boys playing on the canal bank found a hole full of silver coins. Nine of the lads filled their caps with the money, which they took to the police station. Altogether £250 worth of coins were taken out, having evidently been underground for many years.

A large seed refinery, situated in the centre of the extensive warehouses and wharves which abound in the neighbourhood of Wapping, was on Tuesday night involved in fire, and was not subdued until an early hour next morning. The premises of Messrs. Tyser, Pechey, and Bosco suffered extensive damage.

The Engineers, Electricians, Builders, and Ironmongers' Exhibition will be held at the Agricultural Hall from March 17th to 29th. Any one interested in these professions and trades will receive a ticket admitting to the exhibition on sending a postcard to the offices, 43, New Oxford-street, W.C.

Mr. H. M. Stanley's stay in Cairo is anything but one of repose, which appears to be a luxury unknown to African explorers. Mr. Stanley, with him his publisher, Mr. Edward Marston, a couple of amanuenses and artists to match, and with these he spends day after day, his day being from about eight o'clock in the morning to late at night.

Maria Owen, a married woman, of Park-street, Birmingham, has been committed for trial for attempting to defraud Frederick Cooper, a metal spinner, by representing that she was authorised to dispense medicine. It was stated that the prisoner called on poor persons suffering from illness, representing that she was sent by the Queen's Hospital authorities, where she was employed as nurse.

At the Kilburn Town Hall a meeting was held in support of the movement set on foot, under the auspices of Lord E. Churchill and others, to secure a polytechnic and recreation-ground for North-West London. About £50,000 is required for the purchase of the land and a similar sum for the building. A resolution was passed pledging the meeting to use every effort in furtherance of such a scheme.

An interesting paper has just been read at the Cambridge Philosophical Society about fish. The outcome of the observations, which were made at Plymouth and elsewhere, goes to establish that a majority of fishes seek their food by sight, and in the daytime, but that skate, sole, eel, conger, and a few others hunt by scent and in the night. It was stated that none of the fishes which hunt by scent seem able to recognise food by sight.

Severe cyclones and electric storms have prevailed in the Western States of America. The small town of Brownsville, Tennessee, has been practically demolished by a cyclone, the wood-built houses collapsing before the force of the storm. Many of the inhabitants are badly injured. Owing to heavy floods the town of Hamilton, Ohio, is partly submerged, the damage to property being great.

Chang, the once famous giant, is in poor health, and has been staying for several weeks at Ryde, Isle of Wight. He says that of late years, owing to his frequent stooping, his height has deteriorated some four or five inches. He stands only about seven and a half feet now. He is rarely seen in the daytime, owing to the curiosity he excites, but in the evening may frequently be seen taking his walks abroad. His residence is at Bournemouth.

According to a Bucharest correspondent the cold there is very intense. Voices are showing themselves in packs near towns and villages. A wolf hunt has been organised, at which it was expected that the heir presumptive would assist. In Bessarabia, near the Soroca Station, a post-car was attacked by a pack of these animals and the postman and horses devoured. The leather post bags were torn to pieces, but many of the letters were found intact.

The general manager of the London and South-Western Railway Company (Mr. Charles Scotter), in reply to a Battersea association to reduce the fares between Clapham Junction and Waterloo, and issue monthly tickets, has replied that the rates are already very low and might be increased. With regard to monthly tickets the experience of the issue of these tickets, from Earlsfield does not warrant their extension to Clapham Junction.

Notice is issued by the Postmaster-general that in future the value of a reply-paid voucher, unused, will only be refunded to the person who prepaid the reply. The sender must make application to the secretary, General Post Office, London, Dublin, or Edinburgh, as the case may be, within two months of the date on which the voucher was issued, and the voucher must be produced when the application for the return of the amount is made.

It is stated that Mr. Biggar, M.P., died possessed, exclusive of real estate, of upwards of £50,000, the major portion acquired by him in the business at Belfast, part of which was bequeathed by his father and part by his uncle. According to his will, the bulk of his estate is to be divided amongst his relatives. Mr. Healy, M.P., to whom the deceased was much attached, comes into possession of Waterloo Castle, and a large sum has been bequeathed to Catholic charities and religious orders.

The Zoo is at present well furnished with specimens of the rhinoceros. Out of the six living species no fewer than four may be inspected in the elephant house. The Indian and the Sumatran rhinoceros are generally on view; but if an unkind fate were to cut off Theodore, the African rhinoceros, he would be with difficulty replaced. Theodore has already been with us since 1868, and so is not, perhaps, quite in the flower of his youth. This is the only species of rhinoceros

from Africa which has been ever exhibited alive in Europe.

One of the few surviving Waterloo heroes James M'Kenna, had just died at Newry, aged 109.

The whole of St. James's Palace is to be fitted with the electric light in the course of a few months.

The number of postcards delivered last year was 291,275,000. At one halfpenny each this represents a value of £420,000.

According to a telegram from New York, one of the "camps" of the Clan-na-Gael has denounced the use of violence in any form.

An old French soldier has just committed suicide. He was driven to do so by his chagrin at having to leave the Army on account of his advanced age.

The room of Captain and Mrs. FitzGeorge was entered the other day in the Hotel Metropole, at Monte Carlo, and jewellery of the value of over £500 was stolen.

Mexican "peons," or labourers, are little better than slaves. Their employer contrives to get them into his debt, and if they attempt to leave him they are promptly incarcerated.

Lord Wolsey, addressing the members of the North London Rifle Club, dwelt upon the importance which had taken place in recent years in every department of our military organisation.

The Prince of Wales is expected in Berlin on March 19th to attend the chapter of the Black Eagle and the Order Festival. He will stay there till the 24th. Prince Christian has arrived at Wiesbaden on a visit to his family.

Last Tuesday the tram cars in the Mosley Division of Birmingham were stopped for a curious cause. The whole centre of the road gave way, the sewers having caved in, and the traffic was stopped until the following morning.

Scotch river trout have of late years been frequently shipped to Natal and New Zealand. In the latter place the common British trout attains a weight of from 10lb. to 20lb., or nearly equal to that of the average salmon.

The Chinese possess the longest bridge in the world. It is five miles long, is built entirely of stone, has three hundred arches 70ft. high, and a roadway 70ft. wide. It is situated at Logans, over an arm of the China Sea.

At the distribution of prizes to the Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry, Colonel Harfield said that a complaint had been made as to their strength, but he was happy to find that they were now fifty members stronger than they were two years ago.

The execution of William Bow, for the murder of Lily MacLennan Wilson, at Newcastle on January 3rd last, has been fixed to take place at Newcastle on Wednesday. Berry will be the executioner.

The funeral of the late Mr. Biggar, M.P., took place at Carmoney Cemetery, near Belfast. Deputations of the Irish Parliamentary party, the National League, and other organisations were in the procession, which is said to have been a mile in length.

Referring to the great and increasing prevalence of inebriety amongst English women of all classes, Dr. Norman Kerr insists that inebriety—considered from the standpoint of practical medical science—is not less disease than cancer, consumption, or typhoid fever.

Replying to a deputation of Volunteer commanding officers from Manchester, who asked the Secretary for a loan of £12,000 to provide an adequate rifle range, Mr. Stanhope, the Secretary for War, promised to represent to his colleagues in strong terms the facts which had been placed before him.

John Palmer was charged, at Marlborough-street Police Court, on remand, with shooting at two persons at Hengler's Circus with intent to murder them. The men at whom it was stated he fired gave evidence against him, and the prisoner, who said he went there to kill his wife, was committed for trial.

The Astor family is said to be worth about forty millions sterling. It is nearly all invested in New York landed property, bought eighty or ninety years ago, when the city was a mere village in a swamp. The Astors own over a thousand buildings in New York, one of them being worth over £400,000.

Lord Rosebery, speaking at Epsom, advocated the claims of that town to be the home of the Surrey County Council. He admitted that London would be in many respects more convenient, but urged that that was not the question, and that it was never intended that all the county councils within the metropolitan area should assemble in the capital.

What Sir J. Lubbock described as almost like a fairy tale of finance was told him when presiding at the general meeting of the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders. During the past eighteen years, he said, he had dealt with debts amounting to £385,000,000, and had saved £24,000,000 to the investing community by the mere acceleration in the payment of their interest.

Edward Lamb, a salesman in the Borough Market, was, at the Southwark Police Court, charged on remand with causing the death of Alfred Howe. The men had quarrelled, and during the conflict Howe received a fatal injury through an umbrella with which Lamb was defending himself. A coroner's jury have decided that death was from misadventure. The magistrate remanded the defendant on bail.

The Queen will attend the drawing-room at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday next, and also the succeeding drawing-room, which will take place on or about the 12th of March. Her Majesty will arrive in town on Tuesday, and the Court will remain at Buckingham Palace until Thursday.

William Oram was, at the Thames Police Court, charged with assaulting two men named Sergeant and Sharp. From the evidence of two prosecutors, it appeared that on the ground of their being "blacklegs," working at the Copenhagen Oil Mills, they were set upon and maltreated by strikers and their supporters. The prisoner was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

The Royal United Service Institution will grant annually a gold medal for the best essay on a naval or military subject by members of the institution or persons eligible as members. The subject for the 1890 essay is "The tactical operations of the future (including questions of supply and transport of ammunition) as affected by the introduction of magazine rifles, machine and quick-firing guns, and smokeless powder."

The Prince and Princess of Wales have received, at Marlborough House, a deputation of governors of the Australian colonies, who presented them with the silver wedding gift which was subscribed for by the people of Victoria. The present consisted of two handsome vases of Australian design and workmanship, wrought in gold and silver and inlaid with precious stones. Both the prince and princess were greatly pleased, and expressed their admiration.

The County Council at their last meeting discussed the proposal of the Bridges Committee that steps should be taken for the construction of a tunnel under the Thames at Blackwall. The idea is that the tunnel shall be large enough for a double line of vehicles. Mr. A. Arnold said he believed such a tunnel would cost two or three millions sterling, and he moved an amendment in favour of "such other means of communication as may appear most desirable." The debate was adjourned to March 7th.

The will of the late Mr. Edward Dubbins has been contested before Sir J. Hannen. After making a will in favour of his granddaughter the testator became engaged to Miss Eva Dot Simpson, and a marriage was arranged. Before the date for the wedding arrived Mr. Dubbins committed suicide, having on the previous day executed a will leaving the bulk of his property to Miss Simpson, and it was this instrument that

was now disputed. Before the case had concluded a settlement was arranged.

The influenza has again broken out violently in East Syria.

There was one death from smallpox in London last week, the first for a considerable period.

Brighton last week had the lowest death rate of any of the twenty-eight great towns of England and Wales. The deaths were at the annual rate of 14.1 per 1,000.

Alderman Stone, who was Lord Mayor in 1874, died on Wednesday at St. Thomas's Hospital, of which institution he had been for many years treasurer. He was 78 years of age.

There were 14 deaths from measles in London last week, 13 from scarlet fever, 27 from diphtheria, 103 from whooping-cough, 8 from enteric fever, 1 from an undefined form of continued fever, and 21 from diarrhoea and dysentery.

A strike of bakers is going on at Barchest. The Commune is making and baking bread, and selling it at the usual price, 2d. a loaf. The instigators of the strike are said to be some Greek bakers, and it is talked of sending them quietly across the frontier.

A deputation of the employees of the South London Tramway Company waited on Mr. William Jacques, the manager, and presented him with a tea and coffee service in recognition of the interest he has taken in the men and of the concessions which have been granted.

The priests in North Italy have spread a report that in the course of the present year there will be three days of absolute darkness, only to be illumined by consecrated candles. The peasants rush to buy candles, and take them to the priests to be blessed, giving, of course, a fee for the ceremony.

A meeting of the London Road Car Company, it was suggested that the cost of ticket inspection, £2,000 per annum, was very heavy, and that a less expensive method of checking ought to be adopted. The chairman, however, said it only came to about 5s. per car weekly, while it brought in six times that amount.

A Paris telegram says that an attempt has been made to murder the Governor of the central prison in the department of the Nord. While going to his round several prisoners attacked and tried to stab him, but the gendarmes arrived, and after a struggle, handcuffed them and conveyed them to the cells.

A new riverside club, to be called the Albany, will be opened in the first week of April at Kingston-on-Thames, the founders having succeeded in acquiring the old mansion, known as Bank Grove, possessed by the late Sir Charles Frank.

It is non-political, and special features will be the réceptions, garden parties, and boating facilities. Ladies are eligible for membership.

The returns of metropolitan pauperism for the second week of February, 1890, show that the total number of paupers was 101,785, being 61,330 indoor and 40,255 outdoor. In the corresponding period of the three previous years the totals were—1887, 107,056; 1888, 110,230; and 1889, 104,560.

The vagrants relieved numbered 679 men, 130 women, and 20 children.

Application for a rule for a habeas corpus to bring up Kate Gatehouse, with a view to her being restored to her mother, was made in the Queen's Bench Division. Mr. Justice Day, who had seen the mother and daughter privately, stated that it was a very painful case, but the particulars were not mentioned in court. A rule nisi was granted.

The Tichborne Claimant, who is staying at Hanley, states that his case is to be reopened in April next, a fund of £150,000 being guaranteed towards the necessary legal and other expenses.

The Claimant, who is looking remarkably well, delivers free lectures each evening upon the points of the last trial, and asserts that of the 385 witnesses called, 272 were positives and 113 negatives.

When the Duc d'Orleans was preparing to go to bed on Monday night he was informed that he was to be removed that night from the Conciergerie, and he was conveyed in a train to the suburbs of Paris, where a train stopped to take up the duke and the police who had him in custody. He was taken to the prison in the former monastery of Clairvaux, where he was placed in the quarters assigned for political prisoners.

Much commotion was caused in betting club circles in Liverpool by the action of the police in serving individual shareholders of various betting clubs with summonses, issued at the instance of the betting clubs, to appear before the police authorities, for betting, selling spirits without a license, and other offences. Over 800 summonses have been issued, affecting twenty-five clubs. Among those summoned are said to be several prominent residents. The summonses are returnable in a fortnight.

A fire was caused the other evening in Wandsworth through tar boiling over, at 60, Fullerton-road, at the private house of Mr. T. Smith. A quantity of tar was placed on the fire in the back room on the ground floor, and the room was for a short time. Maggie Smith, 2 years and 3 months old, was in the room and her screams alarmed the inmates, they rushed in to find that the tar had boiled over, and that the room and child were in flames. The unfortunate child was frightfully burned, and died shortly afterwards.

There is to be a House of Commons Steeplechase again this year. A private meeting of members who take an interest in the matter has been held, under the presidency of the Marquis of Carmarthen, when a committee was appointed to select a course, fix a date (which will probably be Saturday, March 23rd), and arrange other details. The programme will include a race for the farmers of the district chosen for the steeplechase. There is some talk of a similar competition for members of the House of Lords.

In the Court of Appeal a decision has been given in the case of Roberts v. Clements, which raised a point in bankruptcy. An action was brought by the plaintiff in the Lord Mayor's Court to recover a debt against the defendant, who was a member of a firm. The firm owed the money, but the other member of the firm failed, and the plaintiff sought to recover the whole debt from the defendant, who was solvent. In the Lord Mayor's Court the plaintiff reversed this decision, and said the defendant was liable for the whole debt.

A singular will case has been tried before Sir J. Hannen and a jury. Mary Bradley, an aged woman, with no relatives, died in Trammere Workhouse after making a will in favour of Mr. Parker, chairman of the Birkenhead Board of Guardians, who was asked to provide for a non-pauper funeral and masses for the repose of her soul, the residue of a policy of insurance on her life to be distributed at his discretion. That will was opposed by a Mrs. Duncan, and the jury found that it had been obtained by undue influence, his lordship pronouncing against it.

Considerable interest is felt in the House in Sir George Trevelyan's motion in favour of a Parliamentary vacation in the summer, for which he has obtained the first place on going into Supply on Friday, the 14th of March. Most of the lawyers in the House, and many private members on both sides, favour the motion, to which, however, the majority of the official members are opposed. The general view among those who are favourable to the change is that the House should adjourn at the beginning of July, and meet again for business either in October or November, taking a short holiday again at Christmas.

Sir W. Harcourt addressed a meeting at Bath on Wednesday night, devoting his remarks chiefly to the report of the Special Commission, which he argued was an acquittal of the Parnellite members. He denounced the authors of the alleged calumnies, and said that the £25,000 which had been ordered to be paid to Mr. Parnell was only a beginning of what was intended. He declared that the judges of the Special Commission were incompetent to try the charges of political combination. Referring to Mr. W. H. Smith's motion, he asked what the Government did not

try the Parnellite members for treason and conspiracy.

The books at the Paddington Free Library show 35,000 certified readers.

The King of the Belgians has expressed his willingness to be one of the patrons of the Stanley and African Exhibition to be held in London.

The telegraph lines at work in India now extend over 53,000 miles, representing no less than 100,000 miles of wire.

During the Sikh war a telegraph office was opened at an altitude of 13,500 feet, supposed to be the highest telegraph station in the world.

The exports from Cape Colony last year were of the value of £29,405,955, or an increase of £273,354 on the previous year. Transvaal gold represented £280,495, and diamonds £4,325,137.

Mr. Stanfield, M.P., addressing a meeting at Ely, said he saw signs of an approaching dissolution, and he warned them to be ready, for it would come upon them like a thief in the night.

The Duchess of Portland has consented to become patroness of the Home of Rest for Horses, of which the Duke of Portland (Master of the Horse) is president.

The doorkeeper of the Kentucky House of Representatives is seven feet in height, and built in proportion. His decisions as to who goes in or out are usually accepted as conclusive.

Half a dozen suits for "wounds caused by imprudence" are pending against the Parnell owner of a dog which bit as many persons in the Rue Caillou, Paris.

Two armed robbers visited the house of one of the tenants of Cressington (Ohio) the other night. The occupier managed to get his revolver from his pocket, and before they could effect their purpose shot them both dead.

Lord Harris was entertained to a farewell dinner at the Hotel Metropole by a number of noblemen and gentlemen of Kent. An address was presented to the noble lord, in which his friends and neighbours expressed their good wishes for him while he administers the government of Bombay.

Statistics have been published at Berlin showing the military expenditure of the Great Powers during the last three years. France spent 5,532,000,000 marks; Russia 3,354,000,000 marks; Great Britain, 2,475,000,000 marks; Germany 2,430,000,000 marks; Austria-Hungary, 1,332,000,000 marks; Italy, 1,254,000,000 marks.

A verdict for £1,000 damages has been awarded, at the Newcastle Assizes, to a man named Ling, in an action against the Gatling Gun Company, and a man named William Wright, for injuries caused by a live cartridge being inadvertently placed in a gun instead of a dummy cartridge during the testing operations.

Speaking at a temperance meeting at Harrow, Mr. W. E. Caine said he had seen Lord R. Churchill's bill. Both he and Sir W. Lawson agreed that a better temperance bill had never been before the House of Commons. It conferred the direct veto, and there was not a single word about compensation.

Lord Wolsey has announced that the V.-O. Office will shortly be in a position to issue fifty more muzzle-loading field guns, for the purpose of forming movable batteries from the volunteer artillery brigades, and the colonels of these corps are being invited to make application with the additional money allowances already sanctioned.

Mr. Livesey, presiding at the South Metropolitan Gas Company's meeting, dwelt on the circumstances of the late strike, and declared that, having got free from the union, the directors meant to keep free, as it would be criminal to put themselves in the power of a combination which had threatened to stop the whole gas supply of London.

An exhibition of original manuscripts, relics, and portraits of Beethoven is to be opened in the Beethoven House at Bonn in May, and all who possess such articles are requested to contribute. Concerts will be given by the composer during the exhibition, under the leadership of Professor Joachim, at which Madame Clara Schumann and other musicians of the first rank will perform.

An extraordinary robbery has just taken place at Palermo. When a train arrived there the two guards were found to be bound hand and foot with ropes. They state that during the journey four robbers entered the luggage van, bound them so that they could not move, and, having possessed themselves of a sum of 12,000fr., which was under the care of the guards, made off.

Lord Randolph Churchill was present at the dinner of the South Paddington Conservative Association, and spoke at some length in reply to the toast of his health as member of the division. In the course of his speech he alluded to the subject of free education, and expressed his approval of the attitude which the Government

BY LARRY LYNX.

The Derbyshire Cricket Club held their annual meeting one day last week, and, according to reports in the daily papers, the club seems to be cool thousand the wrong side of its debit and credit accounts. This appears to have arisen from the financial embarrassments of the club's secretary, Mr. Samuel Richardson, who got leg behind wicket—that is to say, he has given the Derbyshire C. C. leg bail, and is no more evidence than the Richardson who wrote "Familiarity Breeds Contempt," or "Virtue Rewarded." It was announced that £500 towards the liquidation of the club's liabilities had been promised, including £100 each from Mr. G. H. Strutt and Mr. W. H. Worthington, the latter of whom was elected president for the ensuing year.

**SUNDAY DRINKING IN BETHNA
GREEN.**

Heavy Penalty.

At Worahip-street Police Court on Thursday James Tresarden and Arthur Tresarden, po

Rumours are current that the dervishes again active in the Soudan.

A FAIR, BEAUTIFUL SKIN.—Salphothine Soap gives natural tint and peach-like Bloom of a perfect complexion. It makes the Skin smooth, supple, healthy, comfortable. **Tablets. Everywhere.—(Adv.)**

LEGAL

A. B. C.—Quite impossible; to set forth all the particulars would require several columns. Consult a solicitor.

HEAMIT.—Your arum has had too much water. a

£100 RACING PRIZE.—"SPORTING LUCK" starts March One Penny each Friday, and will give £100 each week nearest guess to five winners. Overnight selections by known Jockey.—[Advt.]

MR. LIVESLEY AND THE LATE GAS STRIKE.
Mr. Livesley was in the half yearly meet-

Mr. Livesey presided over the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the South Metro

Sold by Chemists everywhere. Established 1824.
Prepared by THOMAS POWELL, Blackfriars-road, L.
Price is. 1s. 1d., 2s. 3d. per bottle. Family bottles can be
See Trade Mark. "Lion, Net, and Mouse." on each w

[illegible]

FOR SALE.

Action in the Law Courts.

At the Smith-Slavin Fight.

Mr. Baird and the Committee

The Plaintiff Expelled.

given Mr. Baird an opportunity to meet those new facts. He had a copy of what purported to be the statement made by Lord Queensberry to the committee on the 29th of January, in which he said that he had been told by a confidential source that the 24th, and that Carney had brought some five or six roughs across the water; that Baird did not go over as an ordinary spectator, but as the backer of Smith, in whose corner was this band of ruffians; and that in judging of Baird's conduct he was not to be in conjunction with it the dastardly and cowardly proceedings which took place; that it did not matter to him whether Baird paid the expenses of these men or not; that Mr. Baird's conduct was "a disgrace to the Pelican Club, and the sense of justice of the Londoners." "And," said Lord Queensberry, "His lordship remarked that it seemed to him that Lord Queensberry put a fresh issue before the committee.—Sir H. Davvy said that was the way it struck him.—Mr. Hastings said that if that was the impression which the paper made on his lordship's mind, he would have to put the question to Lord Queensberry."

—The Marquis of Queensberry was called. On "the book" being offered to him, he said, "I do not wish to make a scene, but my principles are well known."—His lordship said he must state his belief.—The Marquis of Queensberry replied that he had the greatest respect for religious belief, but that he did not accept of it.—His lordship: Is there any part of oath which is binding on you?—The Marquis of Queensberry: I give my word of honour. I was turned out of the House of Lords for the same reason as Mr. Bradlaugh was turned out of the Commons. The law has been changed since then.—His Lordship: If you say that, you are bound to prove it.—The Marquis: I am bound to your religious belief, you can affirm.—The Marquis of Queensberry: I do say so. He then took the affirmation and the result of his examination was in effect that although he himself had thought what he brought before the committee the later meeting was fresh evidence, and was not before the committee.—The further hearing was adjourned.

At Chester Police Court, before Mr. H. T. Brown and other magistrates, Elizabeth Roberts, aged 9 years, residing at Crane-street, Chester, was charged with attempting to poison Annie Hodgkinson, a young woman living with her mother. The defendant's father, a widower, and his children lodged with Mrs. Hodgkinson, and he was engaged to be married to Annie's mother. The defendant's father and her mother were taken sick, and on the 13th February, Annie was taken violently ill. The defendant on coming in from school asked about Annie, and on being told she was better, said, "Oh, I have been crying, I am frightened. I thought Annie would be dead." Further, she said that she had given Annie some mixture which had been obtained for a lotion, and which was marked "Annie's Lotion." The mother said that which were in the house. She said something came over her and made her do it, and that her grandmother was denied by Mrs. Rider, the grandmother of the defendant. The defendant afterwards said that she had put various poisonous mixtures into the food, particularly on one occasion, when Mrs. Hodgkinson was particularly unwell. The mother said that she had been taken sick. She said she had first tried the poison on her grandmother Mrs. Rider, at Saltney, with whom she and her father used to live, and said that on one occasion Satan tempted her to do it.—Mrs. Rider said that during the Maybrick trial the girl took a deal of interest in it. The defendant and another little girl used to play at being Mrs. Maybrick, taking it in turns to poison the other. The girl said that at the Chester Police Court, the defendant said, "Mrs. Rider did tell me to do it. She told me." The prisoner was ordered to be kept in a reformatory for seven years.—Annie Hodgkinson has now recovered from the ill effects of the poison.

At Kingston-on-Thames Police Court on Thursday, William Atkins, of Walton, was charged on a warrant with inflicting grievous bodily injury on Alfred Levey, his father-in-law. The complainant said that he was in the Swan Hotel at Walton on January 23th, with some friends, when the prisoner entered, and, addressing him, said, "Here is the champion birdcage smasher." Atkins then picked up a poker to defend himself. He tried to strike the prisoner, but missed him. The prisoner and another man then pushed him on his hands and knees into the corner of the room. While there Atkins struck him, and afterwards kicked him violently in the eye, "knocking it out." He called out "Murder!" but the other men did not interfere because they were too frightened. The prisoner was taken to the Westminster Hospital, where he remained for a month.—Corroborative evidence having been called, Atkins reserved his defence, pleading not guilty, and was committed to take his trial at the Surrey Sessions.

Henry Stanthorpe, solicitor, who gave an address at St. Anne's Villas, Royal-crescent, Notting Hill, was charged at Westminster Police Court on Friday, before Mr. Sheil, with begging from Mr. Milvain, Q.C., M.P., at 41, Rutland Gate.—The defendant, a tall, middle-aged man, asked the magistrate not to proceed with the case in the absence of a magistrate, and a habeas corpus was granted. The defendant (he said) perhaps an adjournment would be necessary, as Mr. Milvain was compelled to go away that morning on circuit. The prisoner called on him on Thursday night and asked him for ten shillings to assist him to get to Newcastle and then on to Hexham. He told Mr. Milvain that he was Captain Stanthorpe, and nephew of the late Sir Francis Stanthorpe, who was a baronet in the north. It was impossible at such a late hour to inquire into the truth of his statements, and Mr. Milvain, treating him as a beggar, if not an impostor, called a constable and went to the station and charged him.—The defendant said he could bring gentlemen who he knew him to say the position he had held as Captain Stanthorpe, India Office, and that he had been in the India Office for twenty-five years. As for his begging for alms, he never thought of such a thing. For the last two years he had been engaged with Mr. Dawson, deputy-chairman of the Lancashire Quarter Sessions, and he had no notion of begging. A friend had offered to help him if he could raise part of the money to get to Newcastle, and he thought Mr. Milvain was the man to ask him to help him, knowing his cousin, and also his uncle, Alderman Stanthorpe, of the Northumberland County Council. He himself asked Mr. Milvain to advance him the 10s. up he got down north.—Mr. Sheil said he should remand him for a week, but would take one surety in 419 for his appearance.—The defendant begged the magistrate not to proceed with the case, as Mr. Milvain's letter, which was among his papers, was not signed by him. Mr. Sheil did, and then said to defendant:—

I will discharge you this time, but if you brought here again on a similar charge, I will certainly send you to prison.

FIRE AT ALDERSHOT CAMP.

On Friday morning a fire broke out in the clothing store of the Medical Staff Corps, South Camp, Aldershot, and at one time caused great alarm, it being situated in the centre of the huts where the troops and married women and children are quartered. The fire was caused by a cigarette which was turned out promptly on the fire alarm being sounded. There was, fortunately, a plentiful supply of water, and after a couple of hours the flames were got under, but not before a very large quantity of clothing and stores had been destroyed.

In the Queen's Bench Division on Friday, before

in the Queen's Bench Division on Friday, before Baron Huddleston and a special jury, the case of Mackenzie v. Steinkopf came on for hearing. The plaintiff, Sir Morell Mackenzie, sued Mr. Edward Steinkopf to recover damages for libel contained in two letters written by the defendant to Mr. Greenwood, who was at that time editor of the *St. James's Gazette*. The defendant denied that the meaning put upon those letters was the true one, and he offered to pay £50. into court as sufficient to meet the plaintiff's claim, having regard to the true meaning of the words used. Sir C. Russell, Q.C., Mr. Asquith, Q.C., and Mr. A. Russell appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Finlay, Q.C., and Mr. Percy Blythe for the defendant. Sir Charles Russell, in opening the case, said Sir Morell Mackenzie was a man of great eminence and wide reputation, and was, he believed, admitted in his profession to be the most distinguished specialist in the matter of throat affections. The defendant, Mr. Steinkopf, was a German gentleman who had lived, he believed, a great many years in this country, and who had been for some time, he believed, a naturalised British subject. The plaintiff complained that he had been very severely libelled by the defendant in two letters, the first of which he said he did not intend the libels to be published at all in the sense of publishing them broadcast, and in addition he paid £50. into court, and said that he had apologised to the plaintiff. The learned counsel went on to describe the circumstances under which Sir Morell Mackenzie had been asked to attend upon the Emperor of France, and to describe the consultations which took place. There were two removals of growth from the throat of the Emperor, the last on June 28th, 1887, which were examined by Professor Virchow, a gentleman who was at the head of his profession, and he came to the conclusion that the growth was not of a cancerous nature. On March 1st, 1888, a second removal of the growth was made, and was submitted to another removal of high distinction, and then for the first time it was discovered the formation of cancerous cells which for the first time warranted those in attendance upon the prince in supposing that he was suffering from cancer. The libels were written in May, 1888, the Crown Prince, who previously succeeded to the throne, dying on June 13th, 1888. The defendant appeared and said he had the defendant acquiring a newspaper which should bear an English name, and should be published in London, but which should be a German organ, representing certain powerful German influences. In May, when the letters were written, he was engaged in negotiating the purchase of the *St. James's Gazette*, and was in communication with the then editor of that paper. He said the letters were written on the 14th, and the letters dated Kaiserhof, Berlin, May 14th, was to the effect that defendant had seen Rottenburg—who, counsel said, was a gentleman at the Foreign Office at Berlin—and had a good deal of conversation, all of a very satisfactory kind. He felt there was a desire to operate as much as possible against Boulanger. The Emperor, the letter went on, is not expected to live much longer, and the Emperor is in a storm of the final collapse, but because of the many mistakes which he is said to have made.

as having shown more sense than the Emperor. The second letter, which was dated from Berlin the same day, had the effect that the defendant had shown Greenwood's letter to B., who had expressed his and B.'s entire satisfaction and their readiness to work with them in a thorough manner. Defendant further said he had stated their desire that the embassies at Paris, Rome, and Petersburg should be instructed to write or wire information, but was told it was impossible. It might therefore be necessary to have correspondents in each place, which would require a couple of thousand pounds of additional expense. On Wednesday, further, he said he was to meet Herbert B., and then the letter proceeded, "I am told again, and from a totally different quarter, that Mackenzie will have to run the moment the Emperor dies. There is so much material being collected against him that he will find it difficult to escape charges of conspiracy, so far that he, knowing that the Emperor suffered from cancer, decided it in order that the Emperor might not be excluded from the succession, which certainly might have been done in accordance with the laws of the Hohenzollerns had Mackenzie admitted the existence of cancer. He so conspired to provide funds for various present and prospective purposes." The letter concluded by saying "Henceforward he has been going on as well as possible and their idea concerning Boulanger is that an English paper should say that Germany, and only Germany, benefited by what he did, but B. told defendant they awaited further news before proposing any observations on the subject. The learned counsel went on to explain that portions of the letters were referred to during the trial of an action brought by Mr. Greenwood against the *St. James's Gazette*, but that the *Times*'s reporter published other portions which were not read, including those parts reflecting on plaintiff.

(—Sir More Mackenzie went into the witness-box and gave an account of his attendance on the Crown Prince, who subsequently became Emperor of Germany. He was summoned to Berlin in May, 1887, by the prince's physicians, who told him that his royal highness was suffering from hoarseness and from a small growth in the windpipe. It was impossible to see the nature of the growth, and he was asked to make a proposal to make an opening in the throat for the purpose of removing the whole or a portion of the larynx, but he proposed to remove a portion without resorting to that operation, and the German doctors who at first thought it would be difficult did not oppose. He accordingly removed a portion of the growth, which was examined by Professor Virchow, who said it was a simple wart, and that the growth would not recur. After the removal Professor Virchow reported to the same effect. Sir M. Mackenzie, continuing his evidence, said it was not till March 15th, 1888, that Professor Waldeyer found traces of cancer in the Crown Prince's throat. The physicians in attendance then sent a report to Berlin. He did not consider that the presence of cancer was conclusively proved till March, 1888.—In cross-examination, Sir M. Mackenzie said that he had written nothing against the *Times* for the same libel. He admitted that ill-natured reports were circulated in Germany soon after his arrival there, but they were by the anti-English press. The cross-examination concluded the case for the plaintiff.—No evidence was called for the defence.—Mr. Asquith summed up the case for the plaintiff, denouncing the defendant for going on with the libel, and for not addressing any apology for the defence, said the defendant never suggested that there was the slightest truth in the statement complained of. He merely repeated without malice rumours which were current in Berlin. They were written in confidence, and never intended for publication.—His lordship, in summing up, said a man who repeated a libel was liable, whatever his intention might be.—The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £1,500, and judgment was given accordingly, with costs.)

It was announced that the case, Mackenzie v. the Times, had been settled on the terms that judgment should be entered for the plaintiff for £150, with taxes costs, so as to indemnify the plaintiff, it being contended that it was by inadvertence that the portions of the letters not read in court were published in the Times; the reporter not being aware that it had been agreed that the letters should not be read in full.

Thomas Powell, aged 28, a tailor, of Court-ro

turnment, and Mary Ann Cookney, 32, of Fair-
 street, Cadogan, Cardiff, were brought up
 at the West London Police Court on Thursday,
 in a warrant, charged with being concerned
 in stealing chairs and other articles of
 furniture, value £15, the property of Frank
 Smith, the husband of the female prisoner.—
 Mr. Curtis Bennett, on seeing the prosecutor, who
 looked much older than his wife, observed that he
 was the same man whom he sent to prison for
 assaulting her.—The prosecutor deposed that he
 was a male nurse attendant, and was staying at
 Hunt-street. At the time of the alleged assault he
 was living at Nasmith-street. On December 30th he
 was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, and was
 released on February 6th. He went to the house
 and found it empty, the prisoners and all the
 furniture gone. He made inquiries of the neigh-
 bours, and traced the prisoners to the Great
 Western Railway at Paddington. He identified
 a watchstand in the possession of a furniture
 dealer, named Robinson, in Beadon-road, Ham-
 smith, who showed him the furniture which he
 believed was in Powell's hands. He was pro-
 ceeding to enter the house to seize the furniture,
 when he was stopped by the magistrate, who said, "Not now."—
 In answer to the male prisoner, the prosecutor
 said his wife took the house in Nasmith-street,
 but he could not tell in what name, but he under-
 stood it was in his own. They removed from a
 house in Avenue-road in December, as they could
 not afford to pay the rent, which was not then due.
 He never gave the prisoner a reference, and he
 thought to take the house in Nasmith-street, nor
 told him to say that the furniture belonged to him,
 but to tell him and his wife to pass as Mr. and Mrs.
 Powell.—The prosecutor said that on putting the
 male prisoner out of the house his wife received
 the blow accidentally. Both swore that he took up
 a jug and struck her on the head with it. She was
 an excellent wife to him until she became ac-
 quainted with Powell.—The wife here stated that
 she bought everything which was in the house.—
 The prosecutor denied that statement, and said
 she did not buy a single thing. He bought the
 whole while he was at St. George's Hospital. He
 was there for three years, and afterwards at the
 West London Hospital for six or eight months.—
 Edwin Robinson, a furniture dealer, in Beadon-
 road, deposed that on the 27th of January he went
 to the house, 16, Nasmith-street, and saw the
 male prisoner, who opened the door. He
 said he had come to look at some goods,
 and he arranged to call at some other time.
 He saw the woman who was in the dock, and she
 showed him some furniture she wanted to dispose
 of. She wanted 50s., and he offered 30s., as
 the articles were very rough. On the following Sat-
 urday the prisoners called together, and he agreed
 to purchase the things for £2, which he gave to
 Powell, who handed him the receipt. On the fol-
 lowing Monday he fetched the goods away, and
 saw both the prisoners. Powell, who said she was
 his wife, asked him to remove the things to the
 things to the railway station to catch the nine
 and ten o'clock trains. He removed some boxes
 and bedding on Wednesday, the prisoners riding
 together in the van, and he saw them off by the
 train.—Police-constable Cousins, one of the
 officers of the court, who held the warrant for the
 apprehension of the prisoners, said he found them
 detained by the local police at Cardiff on Wed-
 nesday afternoon. He read the warrant, Powell
 saying "What a bad man." He took the house for
 him in Nasmith-street to keep him out of dis-
 grace.—On the way to London he said,
 "Mrs. Cookney called in a broker to sell
 the things, but he would only give 30s."
 I said "Do not let the man have them ;
 I will try to get more." I went to a man
 in Beadon-road, and he said he would give £2 for
 them. I made out a receipt for the amount, think-
 ing all belonged to Mrs. Cookney." The prisoner
 also stated that he met the woman at the age at
 Uxbridge-road, and that at the time she was
 in the streets. He took her home and sup-
 plied her with money, keeping her and her hus-
 band, and he had lived with them ever since.
 When they removed from Avenue-road to Nasmith-
 street the prosecutor asked him to take the house
 in his (Powell's) name, that he would give him a
 reference, and that he was to take Mary as Mrs.
 Powell, as he was not married to her.—The pris-
 oner also said that he took the house in his name,
 and the prosecutor gave him a reference to the
 house in Avenue-road.—The female prisoner
 said she wished to work for her children, and not to
 go back to Cookney, as she was afraid of her life.—
 By direction of the magistrate the case was put
 back until the afternoon for the attendance of the
 agent who let the house in Nasmith-street.—On
 the prisoners being again placed in the dock the
 woman fainting, and had to be carried to the
 court.—George Lingard, a doctor, said that on
 the 28th of January he let the house in
 Nasmith-street to Thomas Powell. He first
 saw the female prisoner, who represented
 herself to be the wife of Powell. A fortnight
 afterwards he saw the male prisoner. The female
 prisoner always paid the rent. Witness went to
 Avenue-road, and saw Mr. Cookney, and asked
 him if he had lodgers of the name of Powell.
 He said, "Yes," and that they had been living
 with him three months, and that the male pris-
 oner was going to leave. Powell's sister was
 coming from Brighton to live with them, and
 wanted an extra room, which he could not accom-
 modate them with. He gave a favourable refer-
 ence, and said his lodgers always paid their rent in ad-
 vance.—William Williams, a builder, was called
 and said he let 31, Avenue-road to Cookney.—Mr.
 Curtis Bennett said the evidence of Mr. William
 did not carry the case any further.—After the
 evidence he could not believe that the man had
 offered to let the house to Powell, observing that
 it was probable that the furniture did belong
 to his wife.—There was slight applause, and the
 prosecutor stepping up to address the magis-
 trate he was told to go away.

Lords Justices Cotton, Lindley, and Lopes commenced the hearing of the appeal of Mr. Tuohy of the *Freeman's Journal*, from an order of Mr. Justice Brett fining him £100 for contempt of court in commenting on the pending divorce suit of Captain O'Shea, in which Mr. Parnell is the co-respondent. The appellant being, as was alleged, only a subordinate in the London office of the paper, which was printed in Dublin, it was contended that he was not responsible for publishing the otherwise remarkable article. The learned Justice, however, held that Captain O'Shea, the Solicitor-general submitted that the order of the court below was not made in a civil suit, but was a judicial act of the court for the protection of its own process against a person who had committed an offence against it, and the order was in this way made in a "criminal proceeding," as contemplated by the section of the Judicature Act. After citing authorities, the learned Solicitor-general submitted that a contempt of court was an indictable offence.—Mr. Asquith, who is in reply, submitted that the offence was not an indictable offence, and was, therefore, not a criminal offence within the meaning of the Act in respect of which an appeal would not lie. Lord Justice Lopes: If this is not a criminal matter, what is it?—Mr. Asquith: It is a motion in the suit of O'Shea v. O'Shea and Parnell, which is not a criminal suit.—Lord Justice Lopes: And in the matter of a person disturbing the process, peace and process of the court, and that is a criminal matter. After further argument the learned Justice held that this was an appeal in a criminal case, in which no appeal would lie. The present appeal must therefore be dismissed, with costs, and an order accordingly was made.

On Thursday evening the Portuguese Minister and Madame Freitas and Lady Ewart arrived in Windsor, and drove to the castle on a visit to his Majesty. They were included in the royal dinner party.

Frederick Coe, 55, of Malvern-road, Dalst

windmill Low, 22, or
for money, both described as of no occupation, were
arrested at the Dalston Police Court, on a
warrant obtained by means of false pre-
sentations from Henry Craus, 2s.—Prosecutor,
a licensed victualler, of the Windsor Castle, City-
road, St. Luke's, said that on the evening of
February 21st the two prisoners entered his house,
and Coe, in a jovial manner, exclaimed, "Guv'nor,
we have a summons for you," at the same time
producing a large envelope and taking from it
several sheets of blue paper. On each sheet of
paper there was a cutting from a newspaper in
reference to a police officer who had been
dismissed from the force for drinking while on
duty, and words to the effect that money
was being collected for him. There were a
number of signatures on the papers, and against
the sums of money were recorded. The prosecu-
tor questioned the men, and Coe said he was
the sergeant of the man who had been dismissed,
and Low, whom he represented as Inspector
Lockwood, was his inspector. Both men said
they belonged to Dalston Police Station, and that
they had had permission from the commissioner
of police to collect money for the discharged con-
stable. Prosecutor said he felt very sorry for the
man and believing the statements of the prisoners
to be true, he handed Coe 2s., and signed one of the
papers. His suspicion was aroused after the men
left the house, and the following morning he went
to Dalston Police Station and inquired into the
representations of the prisoners. He learned of their
renunciation of his inquiries he laid information at
the court, and a warrant was issued for their
arrest.—James Hildreth, of the Windsor Castle,
Victoria Park, and other witnesses deposed to
being similarly imposed upon, and the prisoners
were committed for trial.

BY A CITY SHARK.

The Stock Exchange has just witnessed one of those gambling "rips" which make many people regard it as a den of thieves. At the end of last week a story was industriously spread that the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Companies had decided to amalgamate, as the best way of reducing working expenses. As no official contradiction appeared, even the knowingest got to believe that there might be something in the strange tale, and so lively buying went on all round the circle. Just at the height of the fever out came the long delayed denial, and a number of clever ones who had already caught Sharrp practices, undoubtedly, it would be interesting to observe the person who first loosed the prodigious canard. He and his friends have made, no doubt, a sweet little pile, but I should not much care to sit down at the card-table with them for antagonists. In one way, however, they have done good, of course inadvertently, or they would not have been guilty of such inconsistency we may make sure. The idea of fusion having been thus started, the shareholders of both lines are considering the advisability of being better off by advantage to establish a partnership. It is estimated by the writer of a brochure which has just appeared that the joint saving by this means would amount to fully £300,000 per annum, but that, I think, is an exaggerated figure. Even deducting one-third, however, a very pretty penny would remain for the shareholders to divide between them. But they will have to bring very heavy pressure to bear upon the two boards of directors, whose interest in cutting down the outlay is not quite so strong as that of the shareholders. Otherwise the Metropolitan and District would have embraced one another long ago, instead of doing all in their power to make themselves unpleasant. The same may be said of the insensate hostility between the London General Omnibus Company and the Road Car Company. Both are losing heavily by competition, and the respective shareholders would be right glad to stop the fratricidal strife. But a single company would require only one board of directors, and is neither of the present boards likely to respond to commit suicide, the much-to-be desired consolidation never.

The next most noticeable feature of the week has been the sharp fluctuations in Argentine securities. The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has been rising almost continuously, and it is fully expected that the Republican Government will have to draw on its balances in Europe. That would rather discomfit the Bank of England, which has none to much gold in its vaults. With these perplexities staring one in the face, speculation should be kept within very narrow bounds. I still believe that Great Western, Great Eastern, Midland, and Metropolitan are good buying, while Brazilian bonds were very scarce at the fortnightly settlement, showing that there must be a heavy "bear" account out. But in each and every case, my friends, be extremely cautious, or you may get your fingers pinched.

MONEY MARKET:

Very little business was done on the Stock Exchange to-day. The Funds were steady. American Railways were stronger, and Canadian Lines were also tolerably strong. Foreign Railways were without alteration. Miscellaneous Securities irregular. Mining Shares unsettled. Latest quotations:—Consols, 97½; ditto account, 97½; Two-and-a-half per Cents, 95½.

Argentine, 1886, 90, 1	Peruvian 6 per Cents, 20%, 5
Chilian, 1886, 181, 2	Ditto 5 per Cents, 17%, 4
Egyptian Preference, 104, 4	Portuguese 3 per Cents, 8, 4
Ditto Unified, 94, 4	Russian, 4 per Cents, 83, 4
Ditto O Daire Samieh, 84, 4	Spanish 2 per Cents, 40, 50
Ditto Domain, 103, 4	Ditto 4 per Cents, 72, 4
French 3 per Cents, 87, 4	Turkish Defence, 102, 4
Hungarian 4 p.C., 1881 87, 4	Ditto, 1871, 97, 4
Italian 5 per Cents, 62, 4	Uruguay, 73, 4
Mexican 6 p.C., 1886, 85, 4	Venezuela, 50, 15

BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary, 154, 6		Metropolitan, 763, 7
Ditto Defrd., 152, 3		North District, 29, 30 1/2
Calcutta, 129, 1		Midland, 1428, 3, 3
Charham Ordinary, 238, 5		North British, 628, 3
Ditto Pref., 109, 3		North-Eastern, 1107, 1
East Lon.Consolidatd., 108, 5		North-Eastern Defrd., 111, 13
Great Eastern, 541, 1		North-Western, 1768, 7
Great Northern, 120, 2		Sheffield Ordinary, 67, 9
Ditto A, 103, 4		Ditto Defrd., 478, 8
Great Western, 1638, 3		South-Eastern, 100, 1
Hull and Embsay, 378, 8 1/2		Ditto Defrd., 103, 5
Yorkshire, 212, 2		South-Western, 154, 5

Central Pacific, 33, 34	Norfolk & West. Pref., 73, 74
Chgo. Mil. & St. Paul, 62, 63	North Pacific Pref., 75, 76
Dunsmuir & Rio Grande, 16, 17	Ohio & Mts. Ord., 21, 22
Erie, 20, 21	Ontario, 18, 19
Illinois Central, 116, 117	Pennsylvania, 55, 56
Louisville & Nashville, 87, 88	Reading, 20, 21
Lake Shore, 107, 108	Union Pacific, 65, 66
Missouri & Texas, 10, 11	Wabash Common, 15, 16
New York Central, 109, 110	Ditto Pref., 31, 32

Grand Trunk Ord., 11.	Mexican Ord., 37.
Ditto 1st Pref., 73%, 4	Ditto 1st Pref., 117%, 18
Ditto 2nd Pref., 50%, 4	Ditto 2nd Pref., 73%, 4

MINES.

Cape Copper, 35.	Montana, 14.
De Beers, 16%, 1/2	Myers, 58.
Jubilee, 48.	Rio Tinto, 15.
Jumpers, 76.	Salisbury, 68.
Meagan and Barry, 84.	Simmer & Jack, 45.

• Allsopp, Ordinary, 68, 7	Hotchkiss, 7, 8
Barrett's Brewery, 4, 5	New Explosives, 28, 38
Pryant and May, 138, 8	Nordenfled, 28, 8
Gas Light and Coke A., 245, 8	Spratt's Patent, 78, 8
• Guinness Ordinary, 548, 8	

• Ex div.

The House of Commons is expected to rise for the Easter vacation on April 2nd, and to resume on the 10th.